

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
AIR QUALITY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, May 31, 2001
MAG Office
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS PRESENT

Stephen Cleveland, City of Goodyear, Chairman
*Scottsdale: Larry Person
Chandler: Jim Weiss
*Gilbert: Danielle Typinski
*Glendale: Doug Kukino
Mesa: J. Collum Hunter for Christine Zielonka
Phoenix: Gaye Knight
Tempe: Tom Moore for Mary O'Conner
*Citizen Representative: Walter Bouchard
Arizona Lung Association: David Feuerherd
*Arizona Automobile Dealers Association:
W. Knox Ramsey, Jr.
*Salt River Project: Greg Witherspoon
Southwest Gas Corporation: Brian O'Donnell
*Arizona Public Service Company: Scott Davis
Western States Petroleum Association: Susie
Stevens-Matthews
Regional Public Transportation Authority: Bryan
Jungwirth
Arizona Motor Transport Association: Dave Berry
*Maricopa County Farm Bureau: Jeannette Fish
*Arizona Rock Products Association: Samuel
Aubrey

*Associated General Contractors: David Martin
*Homebuilders Association of Central Arizona:
Connie Wilhelm-Garcia
American Institute of Architects- Central Arizona:
H. Maynard Blumer
*Valley Forward: Peter Allard
*University of Arizona - Cooperative Extension:
Monica Pastor
Arizona Department of Transportation: Pat Cupell
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality:
Peter Hyde
Maricopa County Environmental Services
Department: Jo Crumbaker
Arizona Department of Weights and Measures: Mark
Ellery
*Federal Highway Administration: Dennis Mittelstedt
*Arizona State University: Judi Nelson
*Arizona Farm Bureau: James Klinker
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community:
Stan Belone for B. Bobby Ramirez
Citizen Representative: David Rueckert

*Those members were neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

Priscilla Meyer, Regional Public Transportation
Authority
Doug Collins, Maricopa Association of
Governments
Bill Buck, Arizona Auto Hobbyist Council
Bill Coughlin, City of Tempe
Ruey-in Chiou, Maricopa Association of
Governments
Dean Giles, Maricopa Association of
Governments

Lindy Bauer, Maricopa Association of Governments
Sandra Gilbert, Arizona Department of
Transportation
Sherri Zendri, Arizona Department of Environmental
Quality
Bryant Powell, City of Apache Junction
Marv Bradshaw, Dynegy
Dale Lieb, Maricopa County Environmental Services
Department
Robert Farrell, Pinal County Air Quality Control
District

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the MAG Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee was conducted on Thursday, May 31, 2001. Stephen Cleveland, City of Goodyear, Chairman, began a discussion of the agenda items at 1:30 p.m. since a quorum was not present.

6. 8-Hour Ozone Monitoring Network Configuration

Peter Hyde, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, presented a report on the evaluation of a potential 8-Hour Ozone Monitoring Network Configuration for the Maricopa Area. He indicated that ozone has been monitored for 25 years and that the 1-hour standard has been in compliance since 1997. Also in 1997, the 8-hour ozone standard was promulgated. The current network is not designed to capture the highest 8-hour concentrations and a technical workgroup has been meeting to see how the present monitoring network might be reconfigured.

Mr. Hyde elaborated on the considerations in siting the 8-hour ozone monitoring network including: scientific and regulatory issues, population growth, urban background ratios, diurnal variation of ozone in urban versus rural areas, spatial extent of elevated 8-hour ozone concentrations in the Phoenix metropolitan area, and implications for siting monitors for 8-hour ozone compliance. He mentioned that the 8-hour ozone monitored exceedances extend northeast of the Phoenix urban area into the Tonto Basin area of Gila County.

Brian O'Donnell asked why the standard applies in unpopulated areas. Mr. Hyde responded that there is a primary and secondary ozone standard. Generally, the primary standard protects the human health and the secondary standard protects the overall environment including flora and fauna. He noted that the elevated concentrations are transported beyond metropolitan Phoenix. The 1-hour ozone standard is evaluated by using the 3-year average of the annual fourth highest ozone concentration.

Mr. Hyde summarized his presentation by pointing out that downwind rural, elevated areas are measuring higher 8-hour ozone averages. Also, he noted that between two and four monitor stations would be decommissioned or moved. Mr. O'Donnell inquired about the placement of monitors outside the ozone nonattainment area. Mr. Hyde responded that approximately five to six monitors are estimated to be needed, including a monitor in Casa Grande.

Dave Berry, Arizona Motor Transport Association, asked how it will be determined where and the number of monitors required. Mr. Hyde indicated that the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has moderated a study group with representation from three tribal governments and two counties to assist in making a recommendation. He anticipates that the ADEQ will host a meeting with stakeholder representatives to obtain support for siting 8-hour ozone monitors.

Mr. Berry inquired how the nitrogen oxides waiver applies to the 8-hour standard. Mr. Hyde indicated he did not know. Mr. O'Donnell asked when the 8-hour standard will apply. Lindy Bauer, MAG, stated that the Supreme Court remanded the implementation procedures back to the Environmental Protection Agency and it may take up to two years for EPA to finalize new

implementation procedures before boundaries could be designated. Mr. Hyde added that existing monitors already show 8-hour ozone standard exceedances and that a better monitoring network is needed to know the extent of where ozone levels are exceeding the standard.

Ms. Bauer noted that finding the perfect size network to protect public health is difficult. She also indicated that Arizona was the only state not to submit 8-hour ozone boundary recommendations. MAG staff recommended use the existing 1-hour standard boundary as a placeholder until the state more fully understands the 8-hour ozone standard problem.

Susie Stevens-Matthews, Western States Petroleum Association, asked if the ozone monitoring network would take into account where new power plants are located. Mr. Hyde responded that new power plants are a factor in designing the network. Bryant Powell, City of Apache Junction, noted that it is important to know the air quality impacts to the fringes of the urban area. Ozone monitoring has taken place in Apache Junction for several years and one exceedance has been measured. Mr. Hyde responded that several focal points are being considered in an expanded network and ADEQ has sited a new monitoring station in Queen Valley.

Ruey-in Chiou, MAG, indicated that the urban airshed model requires boundaries and inquired if ozone readings will be monitored aloft as opposed to surface readings. Mr. Hyde responded that mountaintop ozone measurements have been used for several years and he noted that special studies have used aircraft. He noted further that the U.S. Department of Energy was involved in a ozone transport study and that Pacific/Northwest National Laboratory was involved in measuring ozone concentrations in the central city.

3. Arizona Power Plants

_____ Dale Lieb, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department, presented the power plants proposed for Maricopa County. He noted that the County is currently involved in the permitting of ten power plants and that the permitting process for major new sources in the nonattainment areas require “Lowest Achievable Emission Rate” (LAER) when there is a significant increase in pollutants. He mentioned however, that operators of power plants may use an option called “netting out” during the first five years of the power plant operation by offsetting the projected emissions through other measures to reduce an equivalent level of pollutants.

Mr. Lieb stated that in attainment areas, proposed power plants must demonstrate through modeling that the emissions estimated will not create an exceedance. Mr. Lieb provided a handout describing the location and estimated facility emissions and power output for the proposed power plants. Mr. Berry inquired how much electricity was used by the Phoenix area. Mr. O’Donnell responded that approximately eleven gigawatts were needed for the Phoenix area and that the transmission capacity from Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station switch yard to California is approximately six gigawatts. Jo Crumbaker, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department mentioned that not all power plants may be constructed. Mr. Lieb stated that recently the Arizona Corporation Commission placed additional pollution standards on a permitted power plant.

David Feuerherd, Arizona Lung Association, inquired when the PM-2.5 standard would be effective. Mr. Lieb mentioned that it would become effective when the EPA implementation regulations are promulgated. Gaye Knight, City of Phoenix, asked about the modeling requirements of proposed power plants. Mr. Lieb responded that power plants in nonattainment areas are not required to model when projected emissions will be less than established thresholds.

Ms. Bauer stated that MAG was working with Maricopa County in preparation of the carbon monoxide and ozone maintenance plans. Recent efforts have focused on how to reflect the estimated emissions generated by the power plants proposed for the area in the maintenance plans. Mr. Berry asked about any requirements in place during high pollution advisories to halt the production of electricity from the new power plants. Ms. Crumbaker responded that no requirements are in place to do that and this is difficult since electricity is considered an essential service. Mr. Berry also inquired about requirements for power plants to use cleaner burning diesel when natural gas supplies are low.

David Rueckert, citizen representative, indicated a surplus of energy may occur in Arizona due to the lack of transmission capability. Mr. O'Donnell mentioned no one has decided who should pay to construct transmission lines to California. Mr. Rueckert asked if Maricopa County can exceed the pollution measure requirements contained in statute. Mr. Lieb responded that others may be able to make additional requirements of proposed power plants, but Maricopa County cannot.

Mr. Rueckert inquired if the proposed power plants "netted out". Mr. Lieb indicated some are still under review. H. Maynard Blumer, American Institute of Architects, stated that he thought the power plants proposed for Maricopa County were for Arizona's future energy needs and not to export power. Mr. Lieb noted that Arizona is an attractive location to situate new power plants because of the Palo Verde Nuclear Power Plant switch yard, three high-pressure gas lines that transverse the state, and less stringent air quality requirements.

2. Approval of the January 22, 2001 Meeting Minutes

This item was presented out of order since a quorum was not present. The Committee reviewed the minutes from the January 22, 2001 meeting. Jim Weiss, City of Chandler, moved, and Mr. Rueckert seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes from the January 22, 2001 meeting.

4. Ozone Attainment Determination

Ms. Bauer informed the Committee that on May 15, 2001, the Environmental Protection Agency finalized the determination that the Maricopa County nonattainment area has attained the 1-hour ozone standard.

5. Governor's 2001 Ozone Alert Program

Priscilla Meyer, Regional Public Transportation Authority, presented an overview of the Governor's 2001 Ozone Alert Program. She mentioned the various public relations and promotions intended to increase awareness and participation of the Ozone Campaign and High Pollution Advisory (HPA)

days, including the “Blue Looks Better On You” campaign. Major participation comes from employers participating in the Maricopa County Trip Reduction Program and following the announcement of the Governor’s Ozone Alert Program; 374 employers agreed to participate. Ms. Meyer noted that the benefits of the program include: maintaining compliance with the federal 1-hour ozone standard, continued awareness of HPA’s and the health effects of summer ozone pollution, the overall need to reduce congestion and air pollution through use of alternative modes of transportation and alternate work schedules, and continued education about the Valley’s air quality status.

Ms. Meyer mentioned that this was the last year of funding for the program. Bill Buck of the Arizona Auto Hobbyist Council indicated he sits on a committee working on the voluntary automobile repair and retrofit program. He noted that the Arizona Auto Hobbyist Council efforts were not mentioned during her presentation. Ms. Meyer indicated his efforts do not go unnoticed in the promotional items during the Campaign. Bryan Jungwirth, Regional Public Transportation Authority, stated that this was the last year of funding for the Ozone Program and is not programmed in future years of the MAG Transportation Improvement Program.

7. MAG PM-10 Efficient Street Sweeper Study

Doug Collins, MAG, provided an update on the MAG PM-10 Efficient Street Sweeper Study. He mentioned that following the MAG Request for Proposals in March 2000 and January 2001, no adequate proposals were received. In February 2001, the Street Sweeper Test Proposal Evaluation Team supported a modified study to be conducted by MAG staff. There are three objectives of the study: collect information on the operational characteristics of certified and noncertified street sweepers; collect information on the current use of certified street sweepers in PM-10 nonattainment areas; and provide recommendations for incorporating certified street sweepers into municipal fleets based on data collected from the study. A draft report is anticipated to be available in October 2001.

Ms. Knight suggested that the Proposal Evaluation Team be reassembled to review the report once it is available. Mr. Cleveland also recommended that a letter be sent to members on the Team to apprise them of the status of the report. Mr. Rueckert asked if the street sweeper report is just an evaluation without assessing PM-10 efficiency. Ms. Knight responded that this report was requested by the cities to provide information on the maintenance and operations issues and it was never intended to duplicate the South Coast study. Mr. Rueckert asked how PM-10 benefits of street sweepers were estimated. Ms. Bauer responded that Sierra Research developed the emission factors used to estimate PM-10 reductions. Mr. Blumer indicated soil conservation efforts are needed.

8. Legislative Update

Ms. Bauer reported that H.B. 2538 survived the legislative session. She noted that the maps with the boundaries for new Area A may be provided at the next meeting.

9. Call to the Public

Mr. Jungwirth mentioned that additional Ozone Campaign promotional materials were available by contacting him.

Mr. Rueckert inquired when modeling would be conducted for the power plants. Ms. Bauer responded that due to the outstanding issues with Maricopa County, it may be completed in three to five months. Ms. Crumbaker clarified that the modeling to be conducted was for the year 2015.

10. Next Committee Meeting

Mr. Cleveland announced that the next meeting of the AQTAC is tentatively scheduled for June 28, 2001. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.